



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

ICE DEPORTS CITIZEN OF INDIA WHO TRIED TO MURDER HIS WIFE

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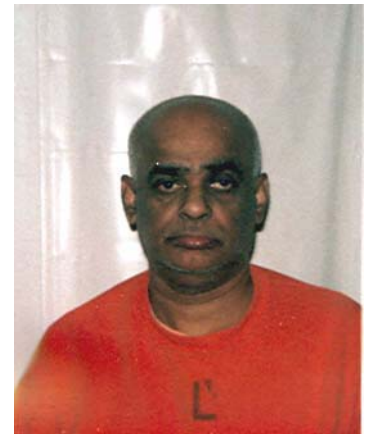
CHICAGO—A 56-year-old Indian national who tried to murder his wife by repeatedly stabbing her as their three young children watched was deported by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents late yesterday.

Abraham Abraham was turned over to ICE Nov. 2003 upon his release from prison and remained in federal custody until Monday afternoon when he was deported to Mumbai, India, under the escort of two government agents.

Abraham had an extensive history of domestic violence and alcoholism that culminated on the morning of April 4, 1994. Abraham was living at a halfway house and arrived at his family's residence in Elmhurst stating he had come to kill himself and the entire family. When his wife tried to call the police, Abraham ripped the phone out of the wall. He grabbed a butcher knife from the kitchen and began stabbing his wife in the face as their three small children looked on. Abraham followed his fleeing wife to the garage and continued to stab her in the face, neck and hands. Their oldest daughter struggled to intervene in the attack until police arrived.

Abraham was convicted of: Attempted First Degree Murder, Armed Violence and Aggravated Battery in 1995 and sentenced to serve concurrent sentences of 20, 20 and five years, respectively.

According to the wife's testimony during the trial, Abraham had displayed a pattern of domestic violence. On previous occasions he held a knife against her throat and threatened to kill her, stomped on her foot and broke it, and poured gasoline around the kitchen and ignited a cloth intent on burning the house down.



“This was a brutal crime committed against an innocent woman as her three children stood watching helplessly,” said ICE Field Office Director Deborah Achim, who leads ICE Detention and Removal Operations in Chicago “Getting illegal alien criminals off the streets and out of the country is a top priority for us. We’re committed to restoring integrity to the nation's immigration system.” Achim oversees removing illegal aliens throughout a six-state area that includes: Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Missouri and Wisconsin.

Abraham entered the United States in August 1979 as a permanent resident. He lost his permanent-resident status after he was convicted and was rendered deportable under U.S immigration law.

ICE Chicago deported 6,077 criminal and illegal aliens living in the agency's Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri and Kansas operational area in fiscal year 2004, an increase of 24 percent over the previous year.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.